IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended): A composition comprising a salt of L-ascorbic acid [[and]] with a pharmaceutically acceptable organic base, and a pharmaceutically acceptable inert vehicle, wherein the pH of the composition ranges from 5.0 to 5.6.

2. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein organic base is selected from the group consisting of tromethamine, N-methylglucosamine, lysine, arginine and ornithine.

3. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the organic base is tromethamine or lysine.

4. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the composition is in the form of a cream or a sterile solution.

5. (Currently Amended): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the said composition ~~contains~~ comprises from 0.1 to 20 mg/ml of the salt of L-ascorbic acid with the pharmaceutically acceptable organic base~~, and further comprises at least one pharmaceutically acceptable inert vehicle~~.

6. (Currently Amended): The composition according to claim 5, wherein the composition ~~contains~~ comprises from 0.2 to 10 mg/ml of the salt of L-ascorbic acid with the pharmaceutically acceptable organic base.

7. (Currently Amended): The composition according to claim 5, wherein the composition ~~contains~~ comprises from 0.5 to 2 mg/ml of the salt of L-ascorbic acid with the pharmaceutically acceptable organic base.

8. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 1, wherein the composition is in the form of a sterile collyrium comprising the salt of L-ascorbic acid with lysine or with tromethamine.

9. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 8, wherein the composition further comprises an anti-inflammatory drug.

10. (Previously Presented): The composition according to claim 9, wherein the anti-inflammatory drug is dexamethasone.

11. (Currently Amended): A therapeutic method comprising topically administering a composition, comprising an effective amount of a salt of L-ascorbic acid with a pharmaceutically acceptable organic base, and a pharmaceutically acceptable inert vehicle, to an eye of a subject in need thereof, wherein the pH of the composition ranges from 5.0 to 5.6.

12. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 11, wherein the organic base is selected from the group consisting of tromethamine, N-methylglucosamine, lysine, arginine and ornithine.

13. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 11, wherein the organic base is tromethamine or lysine.

14. (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 11, wherein the composition is administered 1 to 24 times a day in the form of a sterile pharmaceutical dosage ~~containing~~ comprising from 0.1 to 20 mg/ml of the salt.

15. (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 11, wherein the composition is administered 3 to 12 times a day in the form of a sterile pharmaceutical dosage ~~containing~~ comprising from 0.1 to 20 mg/ml of the salt.

16. (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 11, wherein the composition is administered 1 to 24 times a day in the form of a sterile pharmaceutical dosage ~~containing~~ comprising from 0.2 to 10 mg/ml of the salt.

17. (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 11, wherein the composition is administered 3 to 12 times a day in the form of a sterile pharmaceutical dosage ~~containing~~ comprising from 0.2 to 10 mg/ml of the salt.

18. (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 11, wherein the composition is administered 1 to 24 times a day in the form of a sterile pharmaceutical dosage ~~containing~~ comprising from 0.5 to 2 mg/ml of the salt.

19. (Currently Amended): The method according to claim 11, wherein the composition is administered 3 to 12 times a day in the form of a sterile pharmaceutical dosage ~~containing~~ comprising from 0.5 to 2 mg/ml of the salt.

20. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 11, wherein the composition further comprises an anti-inflammatory drug.

21. (Previously Presented): The method according to claim 20, wherein the anti-inflammatory drug is dexamethasone.

22. (New): The composition of claim 1, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable inert vehicle comprises distilled water.

23. (New): The method of claim 11, wherein the pharmaceutically acceptable inert vehicle comprises distilled water.

24. (New). A composition comprising a salt of L-ascorbic acid with a pharmaceutically acceptable organic base, wherein organic base is selected from the group consisting of N-methylglucosamine, lysine, arginine and omithine.